

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01

DRC-01 /161 W

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R 281000Z NOV 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4458

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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NOVEMBER 28 AHARAM CONTAINS INTERVIEW GIVEN BY YASSER ARAFAT
TO MEMBER OF AHARAM STAFF IN ALGIERS, IHSAN BAKR. MOST
IMPORTANT OF ARAFAT'S REMARKS CONCERN:

(1) PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN PEACE CONFERENCE:
ARAFAT STATED THAT DECISION ON THIS WAS BEING HELD FOR MOMENT,
SINCE IT BEST SERVES PALESTINIANS' INTERESTS THAT THEY BE
LAST TO SPEAK. ARAFAT ADDED: "THERE IS TALK ABOUT THE PEACE
CONFERENCE AND THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, BUT I
NEED SOMETHING CONCRETE TO REPLY TO."

(2) SOVIET VIEW OF PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT: ARAFAT
STATED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS HAD BEEN FRANK AND
RESPONSIBLE, BUT THAT DECLARATION OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
WAS "PREMATURE".

(3) PALESTINIANS' MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM DEMANDS: ARAFAT
SAID HE WOULD SET NO MINIMUM DEMAND BECAUSE DEMOCRATIC
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PALESTINIAN STATE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

(4) ARAFAT SAID PALESTINIAN LOSSES IN OCTOBER WAR TOTALLED 870 "KILLED AND LOST".

(5) PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE ATTITUDE TOWARD CEASEFIRE:
ARAFAT SAID THAT FIGHTING HAS STOPPED BUT REVOLUTION CONTINUES, AS OCCURED AFTER 1970 WAR OF ATTRITION. HE ADDED THAT POST-OCTOBER WAR CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR PALESTINIANS TO BENEFIT FROM WAR'S GAINS.

(6) ARAFAT WAS ASKED IF IN MOSCOW PRESSURE WAS EXERTED ON PALESTINIANS TO FORM PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TO JOIN NEGOTIATIONS, AND IF THERE WAS US/SOVIET AGREEMENT FOR RESISTANCE TO TAKE POSITION ON PEACE CONFERENCE. HE REPLIED THAT HE FELT STRONG DESIRE (BY SOVIETS) TO ENSURE "NATIONAL RIGHTS" OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AS EXPRESSED IN BREZHNEV/TITO COMMUNIQUE. HE DID NOT ANSWER QUESTION ABOUT US/SOVIET AGREEMENT.
EILTS

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30 JUN 2005

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